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WEDNESDAY
JUNE 30, 1954

Mr. Ryiuchi Kaji, a Japanese journalist with a letter of introduction from Bob Blum, came to see me this morning. He is making an extensive trip under the auspices of the Committee for Free Asia.

Professor Ophuls arrived, concerned as to what Foreign Minister Spaak might say today to Mendès-France. I gave him the usual exhortation about the necessity for everybody to oppose any change in the present text of the EDC Treaty which would require resubmission to Parliaments.

Tracy Voorhees called to talk about the use of off-shore procurement and military end items in possible conjunction with the carrying out of American foreign policy.

This afternoon I went to André de Staercke's apartment to meet Mr. Spaak after his talk with the French Prime Minister. I can best summarize what he told me in the following telegram, which will go out tomorrow:

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"SENT: SECSTATE WASHINGTON. COLED 1.

"RPTD INFO: AMEMBASSY ROME. 1.
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS. 1.
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE. 1.
HICOG BONN. 2.
AMLEGATION LUXEMBOURG. 1.

"Saw Spaak yesterday afternoon following his interview with Mendès-France which lasted several hours. On EDC he found Mendès without a policy but hoping something would result from Bourges-Maunoury-Koenig discussions acceptable to French Parliament and partner nations. Spaak said he reaffirmed Benelux position of impossibility adopting any proposed changes that would require resubmission EDC treaty to Benelux parliaments. Mendès agreed to attend foreign ministers' meeting probably around first August and submit precise French program to partners before taking it up with French Parliament. Further stated that if he remained in office he would not allow recess National Assembly before it dealt with question German rearmament.

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"Spaak is, at least temporarily, depressed over Mendès' lack definite views but encouraged his determination to bring issue before French parliament prior summer recess.

"Spaak expects hold press conference in Brussels this afternoon and state conversation with Mendès had resulted in no modification firm Benelux position. BRUCE."

I wrote today a letter to Livy Merchant as follows:

"Dear Livy:

"I think that part of the U.S.-U.K. communiqué dealing with the EDC was excellent and had a good effect here. I am seeing Mr. Spaak this afternoon but have been assured in advance that he will hold firmly to his line of no compromise on the present EDC Treaty text.

"We have been contacting several of the Germans lately. I saw Ophuls this morning, and he and the others assert that the Chancellor will not relax his attitude of unqualified endorsement of the treaty as now written in spite of the cajoleries which Guérin de Beaumont and Parodi will probably exercise on him next week.

"It seems to me there are two important things which, if it were practicable to accomplish, should now be done, one of a positive and the other of a negative nature:

"(1) Somehow induce the Italians at least to start their debate on the EDC Treaty before the summer recess of their Parliament; and

"(2) On no account have a bilateral meeting between the U.S. and France before the French Parliament has voted on the EDC Treaty. If it is necessary to carry on conversations on subjects of mutual interest, could that not be done through diplomatic channels? Otherwise, the French, now alarmed over the recent meeting between the U.S. and U.K., will have their confidence quickly reestablished to their usual conviction that, no matter what they do or neglect to do, the United States will continue to play along with them.

"With best regards,

Ever yours,

David Bruce.

"P.S. Personally, I regret to say I think the letter of President Eisenhower to President Coty was not a happy idea."

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When I got back to the house I found the Harry Binghams and daughter Burks, Miss Duryea, and the Harcourts there. The Harcourts arrived today and are staying until Friday. We had a merry round of drinks.

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